

The Relationship Between the Traditional College Board Scale Scores (200-800) and the Maine High School Assessment Scale Scores (1100-1180) With Associated Conversion Tables

The Maine High School Assessment (MHSA) consists of the SAT reading, mathematics and writing tests (each test reported on the traditional 200-800 College Board scale) as well as a science test that is developed in collaboration with Measured Progress and is not related to the SAT. The following narrative provides an explanation and rationale for the development of a different scale to which high school student achievement could be ascribed uniformly across all disciplines.

Some Background and History

Prior to the 2009-10 school year, student results in grades 3-8 were based on the Maine Educational Assessment (MEA) which incorporated an 80-point scale for each subject area tested with the digit of the reported grade preceding the 80-point continuum; e.g., grade 3 scores ranged from 300-380, grade 4 scores from 400-480, etc. This system of scale scores translated each of Maine's four achievement levels across approximate 20-point* intervals. For example in grade 3, "meets the standards" covered the spread from 341-360 and "exceeds the standards" spread from 361-380. At grade 4 the numbers are 441-460 and 461-480 respectively.

To maintain consistency within the State assessment system, it was decided to continue and extend the same scale used in the elementary and middle grades into the high school assessment program using the range of 1100-1180 (11 representing grade 11) with the same 20-point intervals as described above. This new scale was first applied to the results of the spring administration of the 2007 MHSA. The new MHSA scale allows schools and districts to analyze all tested subject areas for trends over time and to utilize data to improve instructional practices.

In 2009, Maine joined the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) to measure achievement in the subjects of reading and mathematics in grades 3-8 and in writing at grades 5 and 8 only. Like the MEA, the NECAP also uses four achievement levels with definitions very similar to those used in the MEA. To support consistency across the State's assessment system, all Maine student results will now be reported incorporating the NECAP achievement levels of "**Proficient with Distinction**" (formerly "exceeds standards"), "**Proficient**" (formerly "meets standards"), "**Partially Proficient**" (formerly "partially meets standards") and "**Substantially Below Proficient**" (formerly "does not meet standards").

For high schools wanting to compare the traditional SAT scale scores to MHSA scale scores, a set of conversion tables has been included to help facilitate this process (see Table 1).

* The scaled cut score between "Substantially Below Proficient" and "Partially Proficient" does not always fall exactly at the 20-point range but rather varies slightly in response to statistical parameters defined by the "Proficient" and "Proficient With Distinction" achievement levels at each grade and subject area.

Table Key

Substantially Below Proficient	SBP
Partially Proficient	PP
Proficient	P
Proficient with Distinction	PWD

Table 1: SAT – MHSA Conversion Table

SAT Scale Scores	MHSA Reading	Achievement Level	MHSA Writing	Achievement Level	MHSA Mathematics	Achievement Level
200	1110	SBP	1112	SBP	1116	SBP
210	1110	SBP	1114	SBP	1118	SBP
220	1112	SBP	1114	SBP	1118	SBP
230	1114	SBP	1116	SBP	1120	SBP
240	1114	SBP	1118	SBP	1120	SBP
250	1116	SBP	1118	SBP	1122	SBP
260	1118	SBP	1120	SBP	1122	SBP
270	1118	SBP	1120	SBP	1124	SBP
280	1120	SBP	1122	SBP	1124	SBP
290	1120	SBP	1124	SBP	1126	SBP
300	1122	SBP	1124	SBP	1126	SBP
310	1124	SBP	1126	SBP	1128	SBP
320	1124	SBP	1128	SBP	1128	SBP
330	1126	SBP	1128	SBP	1130	SBP
340	1128	SBP	1128	SBP	1130	SBP
350	1128	SBP	1130	PP	1132	SBP
360	1128	SBP	1132	PP	1132	SBP
370	1130	PP	1132	PP	1134	PP
380	1132	PP	1134	PP	1134	PP
390	1134	PP	1134	PP	1136	PP

SAT Scale Scores	MHSA Reading	Achievement Level	MHSA Writing	Achievement Level	MHSA Mathematics	Achievement Level
400	1134	PP	1136	PP	1136	PP
410	1136	PP	1138	PP	1138	PP
420	1138	PP	1138	PP	1138	PP
430	1138	PP	1140	PP	1140	PP
440	1140	PP	1140	PP	1140	PP
450	1140	PP	1142	P	1140	PP
460	1142	P	1144	P	1142	P
470	1144	P	1144	P	1144	P
480	1144	P	1146	P	1144	P
490	1146	P	1146	P	1146	P
500	1148	P	1148	P	1146	P
510	1148	P	1150	P	1148	P
520	1150	P	1150	P	1148	P
530	1150	P	1152	P	1150	P
540	1152	P	1152	P	1150	P
550	1154	P	1154	P	1152	P
560	1154	P	1154	P	1152	P
570	1156	P	1156	P	1154	P
580	1158	P	1158	P	1154	P
590	1158	P	1158	P	1156	P
600	1160	P	1160	P	1156	P

SAT Scale Scores	MHSA Reading	Achievement Level	MHSA Writing	Achievement Level	MHSA Mathematics	Achievement Level
610	1160	P	1160	P	1158	P
620	1162	PWD	1162	PWD	1158	P
630	1164	PWD	1164	PWD	1160	P
640	1164	PWD	1164	PWD	1160	P
650	1166	PWD	1166	PWD	1160	P
660	1168	PWD	1166	PWD	1162	PWD
670	1168	PWD	1168	PWD	1164	PWD
680	1170	PWD	1170	PWD	1164	PWD
690	1170	PWD	1170	PWD	1166	PWD
700	1172	PWD	1172	PWD	1166	PWD
710	1174	PWD	1172	PWD	1168	PWD
720	1174	PWD	1174	PWD	1168	PWD
730	1176	PWD	1174	PWD	1170	PWD
740	1178	PWD	1176	PWD	1170	PWD
750	1178	PWD	1178	PWD	1172	PWD
760	1180	PWD	1178	PWD	1172	PWD
770	1180	PWD	1180	PWD	1174	PWD
780	1180	PWD	1180	PWD	1174	PWD
790	1180	PWD	1180	PWD	1176	PWD
800	1180	PWD	1180	PWD	1180	PWD